These changes are intended to facilitate genuine cases and to increase transparency in transplantation procedures. In so far as the Act is concerned the following amendments have been proposed:

i) To allow swap operations between the related donor and recipients who do not match themselves but match with other similar donors/recipients.

ii) To empower Union Territories, specially Government of NCT of Delhi to have their own appropriate authority instead of DGHS and/or Additional DG (Hospitals).

iii) To make the punishments under the Act harsh and cognizable for the Illegal transplantation activities to deter the offenders from committing this crime.

iv) To provide for registration of the centres for removal of organs from the cadavers and brain stem dead patients for harvesting of organs instead of registration of centres for transplantations only.

Sale/purchase of human organs is already prohibited under Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994. Appropriate authorities established under this Act are responsible and empowered to check the illegal activities of human organs trafficking.

Amendment of drugs and cosmetics act

1346.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had agreed in the inter-ministerial meeting held in the Ministry of Finance on 7 June, 2007 to amend Rule 43A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act in order to remove the grievances and harassment to the importers of the Drugs at the Inland Container Depots in Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether the amendment has been made and if not, by when these amendments will be put into effect to remove the illusionary obstacles created in import and export of drugs through Inland Container Depots in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft rules for inviting comments of the public are being published through a Gazette Notification. The final amendment would be published after examination of the comments received on the proposed amendment as provided under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

Port officers under DCGI

1347.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the responsibilities/functions of the Port Officers of Drug Controller General of India at IGIA;

(b) whether it is a fact that clearance of Drugs at IGIA, Delhi is the responsibility of the Port Officers of Drug Controller General of India;

(c) if so, whether further amendments of Rule 43A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act is needed to clear the import of drugs at the IGIA; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The port officers offer their advice to the custom in respect of import of drugs and cosmetics into the country. They ensure that the drugs and cosmetics are imported in accordance to the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder. The samples of the drugs are drawn on random basis to check the quality of drugs imported into the country.

(c) No amendment of Rule 43 A in respect of drugs imported at IGIA is under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

GMP for vaccine manufacturing PSUs

1348.SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WHO guidelines for Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) are mandatory or recommendatory for domestic use of vaccines;

(b) if recommendatory, the reasons for suspension of production license of three public sector vaccine manufacturing enterprises; and

(c) if mandatory, what steps Government is taking to get GMP in the said institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) WHO guidelines for GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES (GMP) are not mandatory for domestic use of vaccine.

(b) Schedule-M of Drugs & Cosmetics Act prescribing Good Manufacturing Practices requirement is mandatory for all units manufacturing drugs in the country. The three Public Sector Units were found not complying to the Schedule M requirements of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act after the inspection, and hence, their licenses were suspended in January, 2008.

(c) Does not arise.

Empowering of girl child

1349.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country lost 30 million girls of foeticide and the Centre has decided to make Pre-natal Diagnostic Act more stringent;

(b) if so, whether under proposed amendment to the Act clinics and doctors conducting sex determination would be stripped off their licenses, fined up to Rs.7 lakh and be imprisoned for up to three years;

(e) whether Prime Minister has urged every State to step forward towards empowering girl child; and